

REMARKS

Claims 1-28 are pending in the application. In the outstanding Office Action, claims 1-28 were subjected to a restriction requirement.

By this Response to Restriction Requirement, an election is made without traverse, and claims 1-28 are presented for a first substantive examination on the merits. Also, claim, 14 is amended to depend from claim 13, and claim 28 is amended to depend from claim 1.

Restriction Requirement Summary

The Examiner has required restriction of claims 1-28 to a single invention in accordance with 37 CFR §1.499. Claims 1-28 were subjected to a Restriction Requirement as follows:

Group I: claims 1-27 are asserted to be drawn to an auto-focusing method and device;

Group II: claim 28 is asserted to be drawn to a method for obtaining an image of a three-dimensional object in the form of a two-dimensional projection.

Response

Applicants elect to continue prosecution of group I, claims 1-27, without traverse. However, Applicants have amended claim 28 to depend from claim 1, thus rendering the auto-focusing method of Group I necessary to perform the method of claim 28. Therefore, Applicants submit that continued restriction is improper in this case.

In addition, Applicants have amended claim 14 to depend from claim 13. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter, within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §132, has been introduced by these amendments.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to conduct a first substantive examination of the application.

The Examiner is welcomed to contact the undersigned attorney at the below-listed number and address with any questions or comments regarding this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

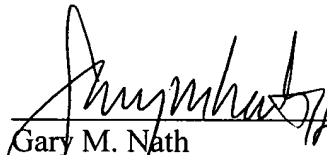
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